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RUSSIA'S BEAUTY COLONY.

"An Earthly Olympus Peopled with Apollons and Hebes." At the time of the Russo-Turkish war M. Reshetnikoff, struck with the inferior, ill-nourished physique of many recruits, set aside annually out of his large fortune the sum of 10,000 rubles for the purpose of eliminating the unfit by encouraging marriage only between young people of exceptional beauty, health and intelligence.

To attain this end he employed as workers on his estate only the handsomest and healthiest villagers. These he encouraged to enter upon matrimony by free grants of land, payments of all marriage fees and an annuity of 50 rubles a year for every child born.

He succeeded in removing from his estate by rather harsh means all deformed and sickly persons and attracted handsome giants from all parts of the province by granting them valuable privileges. Those who refused to marry the partners he selected were unceremoniously deported.

Since the institution of this human beauty farm forty model marriages have taken place and over 100 children have been born, nearly all of them being immensely superior to the average Russian peasant children in strength and beauty. The girls in particular are remarkable for their graceful carriage and lithe, active forms.

A marriage has just been celebrated there with exceptional display owing to the fact that the bridegroom and his bride are the first couple both of whom sprang from unions arranged by M. Reshetnikoff.

The bridegroom, a handsome peasant named Vasilieff, of splendid physique, and the bride, a lovely girl of 18, were driven to church in M. Reshetnikoff's carriage and given as dowry a large wooden cottage and a plot of land. Hundreds of persons witnessed the ceremony, and at the wedding breakfast M. Reshetnikoff delivered an eloquent speech, in which he welcomed "the second generation of his nurslings who are to make holy Russia an earthly Olympus peopled with Apollons and Hebes."

QUEER STORIES

The man who first made steel pens got \$1 apiece for them.

It is said that the Turks were the first to bury their dead in cemeteries adorned with ornamental headstones.

The United States produced nine thousand pounds of tea the past year, the farms being in North Carolina and Texas.

Johns Hopkins has one professor to every four students, Yale one to every nine, and Columbia, Harvard and Pennsylvania one to every ten.

Solomon Shattuck, of Hollis, claims to have the best teeth for a man of his years in New Hampshire, if not in New England. He is 93 years of age, and with the exception of four wisdom teeth, which were extracted several years ago, and one lost when a boy, he has all his teeth in perfect condition. Local dentists say his is the most remarkable case they ever knew of.

The United States constitutes the richest nation on the globe. Mulhall furnishes these figures: United States, \$81,750,000,000; Great Britain, \$50,080,000,000; France, \$47,950,000,000; Germany, \$40,290,000,000; Russia, \$32,125,000,000; Austria, \$22,500,000,000; Italy, \$15,800,000,000; Spain, \$11,300,000,000. These computations are based upon values as shown by real estate records, buildings, merchandise and railways, as well as the circulating medium in each nation.

Three of the five women on the Revolutionary War pension roll are New Englanders. They are Hannah Newell Barrett, of Boston, Mass., aged 103, pensioned by special act as the daughter of Noah Harrod, who served two years as private with the Massachusetts line; Esther S. Damon, of Plymouth, Vt., 80, pensioned as the widow of Noah Damon, who served in the Massachusetts line from April, 1775, to May, 1780; and Rhoda Augusta Thompson, of Woodbury, Conn., aged 82, pensioned by special act as the daughter of Thaddeus Thompson, who served six years as private in Col. John Lam's New York regiment.

Prof. Hans Mollach of Prague has reported to the Vienna Academy of Sciences the discovery of a lamp lighted by means of bacteria, which he claims will give a powerful light and be free from danger, thus being valuable for work in mines and powder magazines. The lamp consists of a glass jar in which a lining of saltpetre and gelatine, inoculated with bacteria, is placed. Two days after inoculation the jar becomes illuminated with a wonderful bluish-green light, caused by the innumerable bacteria which have developed in the time. The light will burn brilliantly for from two to three weeks, afterward diminishing in brightness. It renders faces recognizable at a distance of two yards, and large type is easily legible by it. Prof. Mollach asserts that the lamp yields a cold light, which is entirely safe.

A Hospitable Heart. Frederick Goodall, of the Royal Academy, tells in his "Reminiscences" a good story of Jenny Lind. The Swedish singer never quite mastered our language, and her habits of thinking and feeling remained just what they had been in her childhood.

Her ideas in English were perfectly charming, although they were expressed with a foreign accent. The naivete in many of her remarks was captivating.

Once when the talk turned on the subject of mice, an animal for which ladies are believed to entertain feelings akin to terror,—why I have never been able to understand,—Jenny Lind contributed to the discussion the quaint phrase:

"I have a hole in my heart for ze little mouse."

Sometimes it happens that a man is so cross around home that there is as much excitement when he smiles as there was when he smiled when he was a month-old baby.

A woman may enjoy having an operation performed by a noted doctor, but a man doesn't.

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